

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-11 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 IO-13 NEA-10 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-15 SS-15 NSC-10 OIC-04 DOTE-00 H-03 M-03

A-01 SY-10 USSS-00 AID-20 TRSE-00 JUSE-00 OMB-01

SCA-01 RSR-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NIC-01 /209 W

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R 091720Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8405

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652 NA

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, OTRA

SUBJ: CIVAIR: ICAO EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY/DIPLOMATIC

CONFERENCE, ROME AUG. 28-SEPT. 21, 1973.

REF: STATE 154149

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON JOSEPH DE BRUYN, INTERNATIONAL ORGANI-
SATIONS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHO WILL HEAD BELGIAN
DELEGATION TO SUBJECT CONFERENCES, TO PRESENT USG POSITION AND
DELVER AIDE MEMOIRE AS INSTRUCTED. DE BRUYN LISTENED CAREFULLY,
READ AID MEMOIRE, AND SAID CONTENTS AGREEABLE TO GOB IN
EVERY RESPECT.

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2. REFERRING TO BELGIAN DRAFT PROPOSAL ON AIR SECURITY CIRCULATED AMONG EC-9 EXPERTS ON JUNE 29 (BRUSSELS 3859 AND PREVIOUS), DE BRUYN SAID GOB HAS SENT IT TO SECRETARIAT FOR DISTRIBUTION AS WORKING PAPER. PAPER HAS ALSO BEEN DISTRIBUTED VIA BELGIAN EMBASSIES TO NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS OUTSIDE OF EC FOR CONSIDERATION (SENT TO BELGIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON ON AUG. 3 OR 4). DE BRUYN SAID THAT COMPARISON BELGIAN PAPER AND USG POSITION OUTLINED IN AIDE MEMOIRE WILL CLEARLY DEMONSTRATE ESSENTIAL SIMILARITY US-BELGIAN VIEWS, DESPITE SOME DIFFERENCES IN DETAILS SUCH AS METHOD OF APPOINTING COMMISSION OF EXPERTS UNDER TERMS OF PROPOSED INDEPENDENT CONVENTION.

3. GERMANS AND ITALIANS ALSO HOLD SIMILAR VIEWS. HOWEVER, DE BRUYN SAID BRITISH AND FRENCH STILL OPPOSED TO INDEPENDENT CONVENTION AND "UNHAPPY" ABOUT BELGIAN PROPOSALS. HE LAST TALKED WITH SENIOR UK OFFICIAL ON THIS MATTER IN BRUSSELS IN MID-JULY. BRITISH VISITOR CONTINUED STATE OPPOSITION TO THIS APPROACH AND LEFT DE BRUYN WITH IMPRESSION THAT UK ATTITUDE LARGELY DETERMINED BY PRIDE IN HAVING COME TO SIDE AGREEMENT WITH FRENCH. FRENCH MEANWHILE CONTINUE TO EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO CONVENTION PROPOSAL BUT WILL PROBABLY USE PROCEDURAL APPROACH IN FIGHTING IT. BELGIANS RECENTLY RECEIVED DIPLOMATIC NOTE FROM FRENCH STATING THAT GOF WILL PROPOSE CHANGE IN VOTING RULES TO PROVIDE FOR COUNTING OF ABSTENTIONS IN DETERMINING MAJORITY, I.E., MAJORITY WILL BE DEFINED IN TERMS OF DELEGATIONS PARTICIPATING NOT MERELY YES/NO VOTES.

4. BELGIAN DELEGATION WILL BE COMPOSED OF: DE BRUYN, PIRSON FROM MONTREAL, TWO SENIOR LEGAL ADVISORS FROM DEPARTMENT CIVIL AVIATION, PLUS POSSIBLY ONE MORE OFFICIAL. FINAL GOB INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEETING TO CONFIRM BELGIAN POSITION TO BE HELD AUG. 24.CROWLEY

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